

RIDGE EXPRESS, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1893.

[illegible]

STERTON.

church.—Harvest thanks  
 celebrated at this place on  
 in addition the festival  
 the opening of the new  
 of accommodating about  
 . The decorations were  
 ns of various kinds being  
 indance. Both morning  
 vere conducted by the  
 es, and on each occasion  
 the evening the anthem  
 sart, O God" (E. Prout)

regational Church Yearly meeting of the above evening. There was a large attendance of members, over which the Rev. Secretary's and treasurer's reports were read, adopted, and the following officers for 1893-94 chosen: president, Mr. J. W. Jones; vice-president, Mr. J. W. Jones; secretary, Mr. A. E. Baines; treasurer, Mr. A. E. Baines; and E. V. Johnson, C. Banham, Richardson.

HINTON.

it by Cambridge Men-  
ient in this parish, was  
night to a most brutal  
id to be from Cambridge  
fect that the three men  
and wanted the railway  
ingly, they went and  
er's door until he put in  
e meantime he (Monk)  
without effect. They  
y crossed, and in a very  
cross again, and upon

## AN ARTIST'S RAMBLES IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE.



SHEPRETH CHURCH

The tower of this church is in a most deplorable condition. It is so much more than half of its original height, the masonry having been removed and used to make the churchyard wall up. The project has been mooted of pulling it down entirely, and having been much larger in former times, that remains of the tower points to the church as it must have been. It is a fine specimen of the architecture of the tower. Close by the tower is a fine specimen of sylvan scenery, called "Hall Yard," consisting of an extensive piece of land, covered with a growth of trees, and watered by a deep and broad ditch, which was formerly a moat. The village of Shepreth is a fine specimen of a small town, and is also watered by numerous brooks, fed by clear-running springs.

[Next week's Sketch will be Stapleford Church.]

## SWAFFHAM BULBECK.

**Harvest Thanksgiving.**—Harvest thanksgiving services were held in the Episcopal Church on Sunday, October 1st, the preacher in the morning and afternoon being the Vicar, and in the evening, the Rev. R. P. Moline, curate-in-charge. The altar was decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables, which were very tastefully arranged by Mrs. Coddington, Miss Allyn, the Misses Ada and Helen, Misses Mary and Josephine, Miss Clara Howard, Montague Manley, and Miss Mary Flack. The musical portion of the services was under the direction of Mr. Manley, the organist and schoolmaster, the choir being ably assisted by Mr. Howard, Mr. Manley and Miss Flack. The Church was crowded. There was a crowded congregation in the evening, many not being able to obtain admission. The services throughout were hearty and congregational, the collections during the afternoon being especially so.

## SWAVESEY

**SWASEEY**  
Revision. The Hon. the Moving Barrister (Mr. B. Humphrey) held the court for the revision of voters for the West Canada Division at Swasey on Friday, the 23rd ult.; but few of the questions of public interest occupied his attention. The Commissioner of the Census, as represented by Mr. J. S. French, and the General Agent, Mr. J. S. Holmes, the Overseer of Wingham (Mr. Ezra Ellwood) attended and presented to the Revising Board a memorial which was passed at a vestry meeting held at Wingham the previous day, asking for a reduction in the amount allowed to the Assessor as Overseer for preparing the lists of voters. The Revising Board, after carefully going through the memorial, and finding that the amount usually allowed, said that in making up the lists it was necessary to employ a large number of men to the work necessary to be done, and the excellent work done in which the lists were prepared, he could not but think the charge was excessive and unreasonable, and he would

**WAT**  
*Technical Education*  
granted the use of the  
of five lectures on "The  
first lecture is to be  
month.

*Unemployed.*—The  
at this place on the lo  
the coming winter wi  
sort of thing.

WILL

**Drainage Works.**—Cottenham and William repairing the banks of the River in their district considered to need str the winter. They a which protect the parish, and will then attention. This work ment to some of the to the bad harvest, is welcome sign of the

DU

*A Broken Leg.*—A carrier for this district on Thursday going down some cell and fell breaking his to Addenbrooke's Hospital where it was thought.

HAF

**Manchester, Unity 4.**  
**Pellows**.—A visit was  
 last to the "Victoria"  
 by the British Legion  
 day, P. G. G. Cowman, H.  
 and W. Brockett, and  
 W. F. Dunn. The  
 members to welcome  
 West Cambs, who was  
 member of the Lodge.  
 The British Legion  
 Cambridge District,  
 after giving a brief out-  
 Order, spoke of the deas  
 to the introduction  
 importance of having  
 by competent person  
 the British Legion  
 member might make  
 contributing in accord  
 had been adopted by  
 the Lodge Surgeon, gave  
 made hon. member.  
 The British Legion  
 P. G. M. Day (Earl  
 "Widows' Protection  
 S. M. H.), and Bro. A.  
 P. G. H. W. Dunn, in pre-  
 Victoria Lodge," said he  
 the rapid progress  
 the recent in  
 hon. member, and he  
 Parliament would go

near for themselves the  
tell Parliament that they  
are of themselves and  
undertakings. P.G. Hal  
the Cambridge Brothers  
that night. D.G.M. Po  
for the evening, proposed  
Surgeon, who responded  
pleasant evening was spe

**MELB**  
*Tossed by a Bull.*—A George Wright, 68 years of last week about to fasten the animal turned on him. The infuriated beast upon its keeper, who was taken to the Hospital with severe side.

**NEW**  
*A Full.*—On Friday eve  
smith, of this parish, was  
with rather a peculiar  
checked against an older st

Shepreth Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

# Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies reported in Cambridge Newspapers

summarised by

Mike Petty

Shepreth Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies  
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Most of these stories originally appeared in the Cambridge Daily/Evening/News or the  
Cambridgeshire Weekly News, its sister title.

They are supplemented by some articles published in the  
Cambridge Independent Press or Cambridge Chronicle

Most were featured in my 'Looking Back' column in the Cambridge News from 1996-2014

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' of which this is a small section is published online at  
[bit.ly/CambsCollection](https://archive.org/search.php?query=creator%3A%22Mike%20Petty%22)

<https://archive.org/search.php?query=creator%3A%22Mike%20Petty%22>

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised.  
I hope to publish these online one day. If you would like them in the meantime then please get in  
touch.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library  
where there are many other indexes dating back to 1770.

They also have detailed newspaper cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the  
1960s.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check

There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.

I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

Please make what use of these notes that you may. Kindly remember where they came from

See my website – [www.mikepetty.org.uk](http://www.mikepetty.org.uk) for further notes.

Mike Petty, Stretham

2018

1897 07 15 c

At Melbourn Petty Sessions the landlord of the Green Man, Shepreth was charged with opening his licenced premises for the sale of intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours. P.C. W. Housden, stationed at Fowlmere, stated that on Sunday morning at 2.15 am he saw a light at the Green Man public house. He saw a man come from a house a short distance away, where there was singing and dancing. He went to the Green Man and was let in. Witness went close to the public-house door and waited for him to come out. He found he had a half- gallon bottle full of beer. The landlord's wife said 19th June was Feast Day at Shepreth, At 9.30 the man ordered half-gallon and paid for it and said he would call for it later. She drew the beer soon after it was paid for. It was not taken away then but was called for at two o'clock when she just handed it to him.

1897 07 21

Shepreth feast, p3

## **1900**

1903 01 21

An inquest was held on the body of a railway locomotive fireman. The engine driver said he was driving a train from Peterborough to London, passing through Shelford. The deceased had fired up at Shepreth Junction. On approaching Shelford bridge he saw deceased standing on the engine side of the tender raking coal towards him. That was the last time he saw him. He looked forward to watch the signals and first missed the fireman when approaching Sawston siding. If he had seen his mate fall he would have stopped at once. The body was found on line near the bridge

1906 03 10

At Shepreth a path runs diagonally across the football pitch and when a lady is passing the game ceases; players no longer rush madly after a football as the vision of beauty passes on her way. But in Royston 22 men were held up by a bulldog who followed the ball to the six-yard line where he stood with his nose glued to the leather sphere. The goalie refused to kick off with the dog so close while the spectators laughed. Presently a fashionable steeplechase jockey carried it off by its collar 06 03 10b

1909 05 28

A shocking accident occurred at Cambridge Railway Station when George Meade of Shepreth fell in front of an engine and received such injuries as necessitated the amputation of both his legs. It was fully twenty minutes before he could be extricated and removed to Addenbrooke's Hospital. 09 05 28

## **1910**

1910 02 04

Shepreth's new village hall near the railway station was used for the first time when 'The Masqueraders' under the direction of Mr H. Bedwell gave one of their excellent entertainments. An elaborate programme had been arranged but owing to the indisposition of one of the artistes a great number of alterations had to be made. Fred Grace, a Scotch comedian, kept the audience continually laughing, Mr R.R. Morris (King's College choir) gave 'Go to sea' and Miss D. Branch was heard to great advantage in 'The Motherland'. Several other events have been planned. CWN 10 02 04l

1913 08 01

Red Cross VAD detachments had a field day at Newton Hall Park. Shepreth send a complete detachment of both men and women. The village has a pensioned R.A.M.C., Mr A. Smith, who they made Quartermaster and threw himself heartily into the work. He improvised stretchers using ash poles but slings. These are necessary for it is quite impossible for bearers to carry wounded men long distances without them 13 08 01 p2 CIP

1914 06 19

## Shepreth cement works accident – labourer completely buried

1914 07 03

Dr Anningson said he and the Health Inspector had been handicapped in dealing with questions of overcrowding owing to dilapidated houses. There were houses which were unfit, but because there were no others to live in they were occupied. If a better class of cottages were built there would be a move up from the smaller and worse cottages on the part of those who could afford to pay the higher rent and set the smaller houses free for smaller families and for those who could not afford a small rent. Mr Douglas said he was living in a cottage that was not big enough for the family, and he did not know where to get another one. Barrington parish council wrote twelve months ago saying there were sufficient cottages for the need of the parish under normal conditions. It was not apparent that newly-married couples had any difficulty in getting accommodation. That might be altered now. There were forty people in Barrington who worked in Shepreth; were they going to provide cottages for them in Shepreth. William Hunt said his wife had to live in one room, and he in another, because they could not get a house. H. Neve wanted a cottage. He was a single man and wanted to get married. Mr Conder said each cottage ought to have a little piece of ground to go with it. They wanted a garden, a fair-sized one where they could grow vegetables. There ought to be a quarter of an acre with every house, and never less. If you allow a quarter of an acre, you will make the rents more. The council could not build cottages at half-a-crown a week. Nothing less than 3/6 would cover the expense of building. They would consider making them worth a little more by adding a piece of ground. They could build lath and plaster houses cheaper. They would last a couple of hundred years. They are much more comfortable and much drier than brick houses and they will last a sufficient length of time. But it is the Local Government Board who have a fixed idea as to what cottages should be 14 07 03

1914 08 07

Vicar Shepreth death

1914 08 14

Shepreth VAD could have a hospital for 26 patients ready within 24 hours.

1915 02 26

Institution. — The Rev. E. K. Tottenham (new Vicar of Shepreth) was instituted and inducted at the 12th century church of All Saints on Saturday week. The institution was performed by the Bishop of Ely and the induction by Arch-deacon Cunningham. The church was almost filled. 15 02 26 CIP

1915 09 24

Shepreth VAD hospital scandals and false accusations lead to application to dismantle hospital – Ald Webber, Wimbish Manor

## **1920**

1920 01 07 CIP

Rats Killed, Up to December 3rd last the number of rats killed in the county and paid for by Cambs County Council under the Rats Order, was 35,516. The districts concerned were: Little Abington (number of rats killed 504), Ashley (980), Balsham (2,718), Borough Green (358), Bottisham (999), Cheveley (631), Chippenham (838), Great Chishill (322), Croxton (225), Dullingham (1,205), Duxford (754), Elsworth (39), Fordham (8,072), Fowlmere (489), Harston (322), Hauxton (186), Heydon (1,593), Hildersham (236), Horseheath (324), Ickleton (1,095), Isleham (3,809), Kennett (1,422), Kirtling (396), Kneesworth (549), Linton (584), Lode (548), Melbourn (442), Newton (160), Pampisford (429), Sawston (332), Shepreth (313), Shudy Camps (138), Snailwell (786), Soham (2,896), Stetchworth (1,105), Swaffham Prior (1,032), Thriplow (464), Waterbeach (967), West Wickham (995), Whittlesford (324), Great Wilbraham (846), Wood Ditton (2,017).

1921 07 13

Public house closures – Melbourn Oak, Shepreth Half-way House; Over Black Horse, Bourn Greyhound' Cambridge Cherry Tree in Fitzroy St; Sovereign in Gold Street; Marquis of Granby in Bridge St; - 21 07 13b

1924 11 10

Councillor Hurrell said they wanted to establish central schools in the county instead of sending children into Cambridge. It would be cheaper and give a much more effective education. Ald Jackson said it seemed to him that the idea of having a central school at Foxton would never come into being. The main idea was to take the children from Shepreth and send them to Foxton, and the parents would not have it. The distance between the villages was a mile, the bigger children were able to walk that far. That was the main objection – they would be walking leather out all the time. The parents had a hard job to make ends meet without that extra expenditure on leather.

1925 03 11

Shepreth strike, p5

1925 03 19

Public meetings, largely attended by employees at East Anglian Cement Works, Shepreth, now on strike and their wives, were held in the village hall, Shepreth. For various reasons the unions had lapsed and as soon as that happened the Kaiser of Shepreth took advantage of it to use the whip hand severely in reducing the wages of the work-people he employed. Now the union was trying to retrieve the damage that was caused by the workers leaving their organisation.

1925 03 27

Shepreth cement strike, p6

1925 04 13

The employees of the East Anglia Cement Company, who are on strike at Shepreth, visited Cambridge. They marched in procession to Parker's Piece where a platform was in readiness for a mass meeting organised by the Cambridge Trades Council. On the arrival of the strikers a very large crowd quickly gathered. The speaker protested against the idea that because the wages of agricultural labourers were low, those of cement workers should also be low.

1925 05 04

Large crowds witnessed the Cambridge Labour and Co-operative Party's May Day demonstration on Parker's Piece. It was addressed by E.V. Watring. He said the cement workers had been on strike for eight weeks and not a single man had retracted because they had received magnificent support from the Labour movement. At a recent meeting of the Cambridge section of the Fascisti movement he had been alluded to as a "breeder of strikes". So far as the Shepreth dispute was concerned he denied that statement. The strike was brought about by the directors of the East Anglian Cement Company and only after every possible avenue leading to arbitration had been wiped away that the men forced the issue by striking.

1925 11 06

The Vicar of Shepreth's action in placing upon his church door a notice drawing attention to a pamphlet entitled "Work or Starve" was severely criticised at a meeting of the strikers in the East Anglian Cement Company dispute at the village hall. Mr Watring, the men's organiser, gave an account of a somewhat stormy interview with the Vicar and announced his intention of writing to the Bishop over the use of the church door as an advertising medium to divide the strikers. It seemed hardly possible that the dispute had been in progress thirty-five weeks. Only when Colonel Tebbutt was willing to meet the men's representatives and agreed to the approved rate of wages would the strike come to an end.

1925 11 19

Major D.J. Fryer, prospective candidate for the Isle of Ely, speaking at a Labour meeting held in the Ely Co-operative Hall, said he was so ashamed at Mr Winston Churchill's reduction of the super-tax and income tax that he gave £123, which he was saved from paying, to the Shepreth strikers. It was nonsense, he remarked, to pretend such men as himself needed relief. The Government should start at the other end of the scale.

1926 01 19

Shepreth Labour Party, p6

1926 03 09

It is with great please that we are able to announce the arrival of what is hoped will be a satisfactory and lasting settlement of the long-drawn-out dispute between the men at the East Anglian Cement Works at Shepreth and their employers. Yesterday, a day after the anniversary of the beginning of the strike the men agreed to accept terms for the resumption of work offered by the Company. The Company cannot employ all the men immediately but the manager will be instructed to start as many as possible.

1926 03 13

Shepreth strike, p6

1928 08 17

A terrible accident, occurred at Shepreth when the 10 am express train from Cambridge ran into a motor lorry at a level crossing, all the coaches being wrecked. The train was derailed the fireman killed and the drivers of the train and lorry seriously injured. The lorry, which was loaded with cement, was crossing the East Anglian Cement Company's level crossing at the same moment as the express was approaching. There was a terrific impact. The cement on the lorry flew up in the air so that to men at work at the station it seemed like the smoke of an explosion. After the impact the petrol of the lorry was ignited and in a short time was a blazing mass. The train continued for more than 100 yards, ploughing up the track, the carriages toppling over into a neighbouring field.

1928 08 18

Mr A.J. Kerr of Downing College, Cambridge, a passenger on the train involved in the smash at Shepreth crossing said: "Next to our carriage was a horse box, which was completely smashed, only the wheels being left. At the time of the collision a horse was in the box. It was thrown to the other side of the line, where it lay for some little time with a considerable amount of wreckage on top of it. Then it scrambled up and bolted down the line"

1923 08 20

There is one thought uppermost in everyone's minds, and that is the level crossing collision at Shepreth and the almost miraculous escape of the passengers. The accident must surely be without precedent in the records of railway disasters in the comparatively small number of casualties compared with the damage to the express. It is almost incredible that with nearly 100 passengers aboard the train not one of them was killed, though the engine fireman and the lorry driver lost their lives. The disaster is bound to raise afresh the question of level crossings such as that at Shepreth which is an occupation crossing opened and closed by those who use it.

1928 08 21

The funerals of the two victims of the level-crossing disaster at Shepreth, the fireman of the engine and the driver of the motor lorry, took place at Cambridge. The passing of each cortege along Mill Road was watched by a number of silent sympathisers. Owing no doubt to the rain comparatively few people had assembled when the procession of the lorry driver passed from Romsey Terrace. Heads were bared and traffic stopped, an Ortona bus remaining stationary until the party had passed. A short while afterwards the cortege of the fireman turned out of Suez Road. It was headed by railwaymen, then came the bearers followed by a motor hearse, the top of which was covered with beautiful wreaths.

1928 08 25

After the Ministry of Transport Inquiry into the tragic rail smash at Shepreth it now remains for steps to be taken to prevent the recurrence of such an accident. It was no one's business to pilot vehicles or foot passengers over the level crossing but was left to drivers to use ordinary care. Among the women passengers was a lady travelling to Finsbury Park, and she had with her a basket of eggs. After the smash, of course, she transferred with the other passengers to a relief train. When he arrived at her destination a railway official asked, out of curiosity, if he might look in her basket. Not one egg was broken!

1928 12 17

A 15-year-old farm labourer from Melbourn was accused of having inserted a filed farthing in an automatic cigarette machine and obtained a 6d packed of cigarettes. Charles Cooper, postmaster and grocer of Shepreth said he had a machine outside his shop and had missed several packs of cigarettes this way. He kept watch, saw the accused leave the machine, checked the money and found the farthing. The lad said he had seen other boys do it too.

1928 12 21

Shepreth railway smash inquiry, p5

1929 02 05

Shepreth school, p5

## **1930**

1932 10 14

A man, his wife and five children were rendered homeless when fire destroyed their cottage at Shepreth. It was a four-roomed building owned by William Wilkinson of the Chequers, Fowlmere and occupied by Alfred Taylor. When the fire brigade arrived they found a plentiful supply of water was available but the high wind fanned the flames so strongly that they were unable to save the dwelling. All the furniture was removed to a barn. 32 10 14b

1933 04 26

An employee of the East Anglian Cement Company at Shepreth climbed into a lime clamp, walked into the middle and prodded it to try and get it to run through. It collapsed and he was buried except for the top of his head. Malcolm Reed jumped into the hot kiln and cleared the lime away from his face, burning his hands in the process. Two others took over until they were exhausted, but it was impossible to pull the victim out before he had suffocated. 33 04 26a

1937 05 24

An inquest into a worker at Shepreth Cement Works was told that trucks were let down into a tunnel under the lime clamps to be filled. Deceased had been clearing lime that was blocking the rail when he had been hit by a loaded truck that had run back after a rope broke. There was a clearance of six inches between the track and the wall with recesses in which a man could stand. A normal person would have heard the truck coming, but the man was more than slightly deaf. A verdict of 'Accidental Death' was recorded 37 05 24a

1937 07 19

Shepreth cement strike of 1925 recalled – 37 07 19

1937 07 21

Shepreth and Meldreth ratepayers objected to the new water extension scheme. Everybody would pay an extra rate, whether they used the water or not. But there were 39 artesian springs in Meldreth that could all be made to run to a small pump. Water supplies in Orwell were inadequate and unsafe, being favourable to an outbreak of typhoid. The Government evacuation scheme made a pure supply a

necessity for children coming from London: they would not be used to well water and serious illness might break out. 39 01 27a

## **1940**

1940 05 24

Pastor Dies. — The villages of Shepreth and Barrington have suffered a great loss by the death on the 16th inst, of the Rev. Henry Darlow, their Congregational pastor. Mr. Darlow conducted a meeting at the Shepreth church that evening and died shortly afterwards at his home. In spite of his advanced years — he was 78 — he had been remarkably active and every Sunday he used to walk from Shepreth to Barrington, where he had held the pastorate for the past 17 years. Mr. Darlow's influence for good in the village of Shepreth began with his appointment as headmaster of the school. He continued in this office for 29 years and during the period he won the affection of the young people of the village to such an extent that when 21 years ago, he took the oversight of the church, his ministry could scarcely have been other than a successful one. His devoted service was soon recognised by his fellow ministers and churchmen over a wide area, and he had been elected to the chair of the Cambs. Congregational Union. 40 05 24

1941 06 27

Schoolboys' Capture.—Last Friday, when Ronnie Whiting, Arthur Pateman and John Bedford, three Melbourn schoolboys, were playing beside a stream running between the village and Shepreth, they espied in the water, and were successful in capturing, a particularly fine specimen of fresh water lobster, known as a crayfish or crawfish, characterised, like its allies, by the presence of ten walking legs. It was greenish brown, about six inches in length, and weighed between four and five ounces. The creature was placed in a large glass jar, and exhibited to many interested persons. It has since been returned to the stream at the spot where it was found, and apparently none the worse for its experience in the hands of the lads who captured it. 41 06 27

1943 02 26

Harvest Horn. Among the "Wanted" advertisements in last week's paper (writes Watchman) was one asking for "domestic bygoness," and making special mention of old fire hooks, a farm smock, a harvest horn, articles required for the Old English Museum in Shepreth. A correspondent, himself a collector of antiquities, says it is good to know that such bygoness are being sought after and saved from destruction. Smocks and fire hooks are bulky articles not likely to be destroyed, but the harvest horn, a comparatively small instrument, may easily be overlooked, mislaid or cast aside as something of no importance, and perhaps not understood by the average villager today. Years ago in every agricultural village at harvest time, it was customary for a boy to walk slowly through a village, at or shortly before sunrise, and blow a horn as a signal for the labourer to go into the harvest fields. These horns were of simple design and of various sizes, and were sold mainly at Stourbridge Fair. Those in common use in Cambridgeshire were of stout block-tin, 16 inches in length, straight in shape, and tapering from a quarter of an inch (excluding trumpet-like mouthpiece) to an opening of about 2½ inches in diameter. The last of the horn-blowers in South Cambridgeshire was William King, of Melbourn, who died in December, 1935, aged 84 years. When a lad of about seven years of age (say about 1858) he was chosen to perambulate at sunrise and blow the horn, a harvest-time job he did for several years, his horn notes being heard at times both at Shepreth and Meldreth. 41 08 29Diamond Wedding—Mr. and Mrs. J. Collins, of Button End, Harston, on February 18 attained their 60th wedding day anniversary, They were married at All Saints' Church Shepreth, by the late Rev. Mr. Mines. The family is widely known and respected in the surrounding district. There were 10 children, eight of whom are living, one son being killed in the last war. There are 29 grandchildren. 43 02 26

1943 08 06

Old Register, - The following note by the Vicar appears in this month's Parish Magazine (at Melbourn): The first names in the burial register of 1558 are Campion, Atkinson, Luddington and Poole. All these names are no longer found in the parish. Soon after occurs the names that are still



with us — Stockbridge, Webb, Smith, Collis and Ingrey. A correspondent adds: "Melbourn's 385-years-old register is one of the oldest in the district, the starting date of some of the others being Orwell 1560, Fowlmere 1581, Shepreth 1569 and Meldreth 1681. It may also be recalled that after various unsuccessful attempts, commencing in 1538, to secure a proper register of births, marriages and deaths in a village, it was not until July 1, 1837 that the present system of registration was established in England and Wales, Scotland followed in 1854 and Ireland in 1863." 43 08 06

1943 10 08

Death of Ald. M. V. J. Webber — We regret to announce the death, which occurred on Monday at his home at Wimbish Manor, Shepreth, of Alderman Mr Vivian James Webber, D.L. M.B.E. Ald. Webber, who ... had been in failing health long time. The only son of the Capt. and Mrs. Webber, of ...ham House, Ryde, Ald. Webber was a barrister. He leaves a widow and daughter. First elected as a county councillor in ... he became an alderman within ... years, on February 1, 1912. ... appointed vice-chairman ... and with the exception of a ... break, occupied the chair... 1923 to 1927 and again November 1927 to March ... During that period he was High Sheriff of the County in 1927 In 1907 he was appointed Justice of the Peace

1949 10 28

The county council are to be recommended to take steps to obtain an order subjecting High Street Swavesey to a 30 mph speed limit. It will also be imposed in built up areas at Burwell, Isleham, Shepreth, Bassingbourn and Lt Abington. But they refused Kingston parish council's application for a speed limit there

## **1950**

1953 07 30

South Cambs RDC agreed to borrow £310,360 needed for a comprehensive water scheme designed to supply 17 parishes. At present the east area receives its piped water from Linton and the western area from the village of Croydon. The problem was to find a means of supplying the villages in the centre where eleven of the parishes including Barrington, Duxford, Fowlmere, Foxton, Shepreth and Whittlesford have no piped water at all. A bore was sunk at Dottrell Hall, near Fowlmere, and they were rewarded with a source which will yield a million gallons a day.

1957 05 22

Mr C.B. Kenzie junior won the 'coach driver of the year' competition. He and his father operate a compact fleet of six coaches at Shepreth, specialising in private hire. In their 24-seater Bedford Duple motor coach he had to demonstrate his skills in acceleration, braking and reversing and also broke the day's record by 'quick starting' in 16 seconds. 57 05 22a

1958 03 12

Tyrell's Lodge, a picturesque country restaurant near Shepreth, first served teas in 1956. Now it provided attractive meals to people who wished to have wine with their meal. Military attaches, Harley Street doctors and tourists had signed a petition. But there were ample facilities already and if visitors to the restaurant wanted drinks there was the Green Man only 400 yards away. 58 03 12b

1958 09 10

Ronald Jackson is a locomotive fireman who lives in a house between the railway lines at Shepreth Junction. Although it has no gas or electricity and only well water it has very deep foundations and is absolutely solid. I watched as a passenger train rolled up as if it was heading straight through the sitting-room window, but it swung off towards King's Cross without a quiver from the contents of the china cabinet near the window. His family would not change it. 58 09 10

1959 03 11

Plans for a motel to be built at Tyrrell's Lodge near the Shepreth crossroads were discussed. It would be an eight-suite motel, a special type of hotel catering particularly for motorists where guests rented

furnished accommodation which was self-contained. It would be one of only six in England and include a lounge, bar and restaurant for 100 people. 59 03 11 & 11a

1959 08 04

Major Peter Storie-Pugh of Tyrells Hall, Shepreth, took over command of the Cambridgeshire Regiment. His war record reads like exciting fiction: after serving with the Cambridge University Cavalry Squadron he was wounded with the British Expeditionary Force on the withdrawal to Dunkirk. Taken prisoner, he was put in Colditz from which he made no fewer than 19 escape attempts. A bugle was presented to the Regiment in memory of Lieut Richard Hall who was killed when lightning struck his tent during the 1958 camp at Folkestone. 59 08 04

***1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date***

***1960***

1960 04 29

Tyrell's Lodge, a thatched cottage at London Road Shepreth, has been converted into a motel, the only one in the country. Mrs Jean Mansfield started serving afternoon teas four years ago and was soon besieged with visitors. They sold out of food but had forgotten to get a 'closed' sign and people still poured in. Many were fascinated by the thatched-roof cottage and asked if there was sleeping accommodation. So they designed two new wings and added a drinking lounge and large dining rooms where there will be dinner-dances every Saturday evening. 60 04 29c

1960 05 06

The reconstructed electricity sub-station at Shepreth is one of the most up-to-date in the country. Previously when power has failed there have been delays, sometimes of a considerable period, before information has been received by the Electricity Board. But this one includes an automatic 'Datofonic' alarm which automatically telephones the control room as soon as anything goes wrong. It will also check the switches and play back the findings using transistors for amplification 60 05 06a

1960 08 12

Throughout the year the CIP carried a series of feature articles relating to Cambridgeshire villages. They included Shepreth – 60 08 12 CIP

1962 01 01

Many Cambridgeshire villages are without electricity as eight inches of snow dislocated traffic and communications. Engineers had difficulties getting to the trouble through road blocks, fallen telephone wires and diversions. Snow ploughs have been working on the roads throughout the night. Railways have been badly affected with a drift between Shepreth and Royston making only single line traffic possible. It was the coldest night in Cambridgeshire since February 1917 62 01 01

1963 06 20

The first Model T Ford to arrive in Cambridge was owned by a Dr Graham who lived at Parkside and was driven by his chauffeur, Bert Jackson. For many years the car, CE 1464, was a familiar sight and remained in the area until only a few years ago. Now Model T Fords will be having their own Brighton Run to commemorate the centenary of Henry Ford. Amongst the entrants is George Webb of Shepreth with a Model T lorry which was recently restored to its original glory 63 06 20

1964 07 29

Shepreth churchyard extension consecrated – 64 07 29

1964 12 04

Shepreth village photo feature – 64 12 04f

1965 02 20

Greta White, Shepreth housewife renovates 200-year-old water mill- 65 02 20a

1967 05 25

Grant Instruments started in Grantchester, then moved Bulbeck Mill at Barrington in 1957; new works at Shepreth opened – 67 05 25

## **1970**

1973 01 19

Cambridgeshire will soon boast a 60-acre country-park at Milton Pits and picnic sites at Mepal Pits and Shepreth if a Committee proposal is backed by the County Council. The Countryside Commission are poised to give grants to cover 75 per cent of the purchase and development costs for all three sites. The picnic site at Shepreth would cover about 24 acres of smallholdings land on the western side of the road from Shepreth to Barrington. One side has a frontage to the River Rhee. The Cambridgeshire & Isle of Ely Naturalists Trust say they are prepared to lay out a nature trail for visitors

1973 08 03

The story of an old church and a redundant pulpit will unfold its final chapter at Shepreth parish church on Sunday. Two years ago the Vicar visited Hignam Rectory near Gloucester where he noticed a Caroline pulpit standing in the hall. It came from the redundant church of nearby Lassington and they didn't know what to do with it. Mr Breay suggested they give it to Shepreth church and it was eventually agreed. The expense of restoring and installing it was borne by Mr Percy Austin of Harston in memory of his wife. The pulpit and its delicate carving has been expertly restored by Cecil Adams, a local man

1976 06 29

Railway workers spent almost seven hours repairing a section of the main King's Cross to Cambridge line at Shepreth which became distorted because of the heatwave. As temperatures hit 94 degrees in the centre of Cambridge one sour note came from King's College chapel where the organ was out of tune because of the weather.

## **1980**

1980 03 14

Railwayman Charlie Langford is going to have a comfortable retirement thanks to the passengers who pass through Shepreth station. For at a surprise presentation in the Plough pub he was given his favourite office chair as a gift from the commuters who use the line. "I will use it instead of my armchair, it's much more comfortable" he said. He was also given a painting of the station and a first-day cover with British Rail commemorative stamps. 80 03 14c

1982 02 24

Shepreth school, p5

Shepreth County Primary School has joined the growing list of those which have been hit by falling rolls and forced to close. When terms ends so will 130 years of primary education with the 26 pupils being transferred to Barrington and Meldreth. It was an old school and needed modernisation so it was better to send them to more modern, better-equipped schools, the County said. But parents claim it is just to save money. Eight other schools have closed since last December. 82 12 16a

1984 01 13

Thousands of homes were without electricity when overnight storms brought down power lines all over Cambridgeshire. Eighteen villagers were hit by power cuts and two – Shepreth and Coton – were cut off completely. On the roads cyclists were blown over, cars and lorries swept on to verges and on the A10 at Waterbeach one lorry was blown on to its side. Hundreds of commuters were late for work when felled trees blocked roads. A house at Chapman Way, Over, was wrecked when a 60 foot ash tree crashed through the roof. 84 01 13 p1

1984 02 21

Shepreth animal shelter which on its first year of opening attracted 10,000 visitors is up for sale – lock, stock and llama. Mr & Mrs Terry Willers have built up the menagerie at their Shepreth trout farm over the last five years. It started with their own pet dogs, cats and horses but now includes Shetland ponies, sheep, goats, chipmunks, chinchillas, grass snakes and a llama which is bring trained to give rides to children. If a buyer is not found they will continue with the sanctuary and the children who found such delight in playing with the dwarf rabbits and guinea pigs will continue to do so. 84 02 21 p13

1988 07 05

Jim and Linda Burton of Barrington have won the Shop of the Year award for outstanding community efforts. Their shop is an essential centre of village life. You can buy groceries, pick up prescriptions, have clothes dry-cleaned and shoes repaired. The health-conscious can buy carob bars and there is a delicatessen counter. Shops at Thriplow, Shepreth and Duxford are closing because of stiff competition from supermarkets so they have weekly offers and a free delivery service. . 88 07 05c

1990 06 08

Dullingham and Shepreth Schools closing to be replaced by one new one – 90 06 08a